ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An image processing apparatus for outputting a page image corresponding to print data inputted from an external source has an analyzer for analyzing the print data at the time of outputting the first copy and generating a page image, an image spooler for holding the page image at the time of outputting the first copy, and a page image reading unit for reading out the spooled page image at the time of outputting the second and subsequent copies. Whether the image spooler and the page image reading unit are used or not is discriminated in accordance with the maximum number of sorting page images which can be processed at once by a mechanical sorter and the designated number of print copies.

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